

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-3, 7-14, 16-19, 23-26, 30-37 and 39 are considered in the Office action.

Claims 1-2, 17-18 and 24-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by Bloomquist et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,295,133 (“Bloomquist”)

Claims 3, 8-9, 12-14, 19, 26, 31-32 and 35-37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Bloomquist in view of Gass et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,822,503 (“Gass”).

Claims 7, 23 and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Bloomquist in view of Hains et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,262,811 (“Hains”).

Claims 16 and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Bloomquist in view of Gass and Hains.

Claims 10-11 and 33-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Bloomquist in view of Gass and Ng et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,131,096 (“Ng”).

Reply to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

Claims 1-2, 17-18 and 24-25 have been rejected under § 102(a) as anticipated by Bloomquist. This invention describes and claims apparatus and methods that use PostScript® patterns. In particular, independent claims 1, 17 and 24 recite apparatus and methods that provide a database that includes an image associated with a spot color pattern name, receive a print job comprising the spot color pattern name, add page description language (“PDL”) code to the print job for painting the image as a PostScript pattern in the print job, execute the PDL code in the print job, extract the image from the database and paint the image as a PostScript pattern in the print job.

Although Bloomquist refers to “spot color layers,” the reference does not describe or suggest anything relevant to the claimed invention. In particular, Bloomquist does not describe or suggest anything regarding apparatus or methods that provide a database that includes an image associated with a spot color pattern name, receive a print job comprising the spot color pattern name, add PDL code to the print job

for painting the image as a PostScript pattern in the print job, execute the PDL code in the print job, extract the image from the database and paint the image as a PostScript pattern in the print job. Indeed, Bloomquist does not describe or suggest anything regarding PostScript patterns.

Because Bloomquist does not describe or suggest the claimed invention, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the § 102(a) rejections of claims 1, 17 and 24. Because claims 2, 18 and 25 depend from claims 1, 17 and 24, respectfully, applicant further respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the § 102(a) rejections of claims 2, 18 and 25.

Reply to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 3, 7-14, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30-37, and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Bloomquist and various combinations of Gass, Hains and Ng. As set forth above, independent claims 1, 17 and 24 recite apparatus and methods that provide a database that includes an image associated with a spot color pattern name, receive a print job comprising the spot color pattern name, add PDL code to the print job for painting the image as a PostScript pattern in the print job, execute the PDL code in the print job, extract the image from the database and paint the image as a PostScript pattern in the print job. None of the cited references, alone or combined, describe or suggest anything regarding such apparatus or methods. Indeed, the cited references do not describe or suggest anything regarding PostScript patterns.

Accordingly, claims 1, 17 and 24 are allowable over the cited references. Further, because claims 3, 7, 19, 23, 26 and 30 depend from at least one of claims 1, 17 and 24, applicant respectfully request that the § 103(a) rejections of claims 3, 7, 19, 23, 26 and 30 be withdrawn.

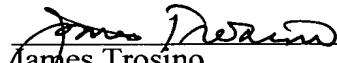
Independent claims 8 and 31 recite apparatus and methods that include or provide a Raster Image Processor (RIP) that has a database that has a first image associated with a first spot color pattern name, the first image adapted to be painted in a print job as a PostScript pattern to simulate specialized print media, receive a request from an application program for access to the first image, and send the requested first image from the RIP to the application program.

None of the cited references, alone or combined, describe or suggest anything regarding a RIP that has a database that has an image adapted to be painted in a print job as a PostScript pattern to simulate specialized print media. Indeed, as previously mentioned, the cited references do not describe or suggest anything regarding PostScript patterns. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the § 103(a) rejections of independent claims 8 and 31 be withdrawn. Because claims 9-14, 16, 32-37 and 39 depend from at least one of these independent claims, applicant further respectfully requests that the § 103(a) rejections of claims 9-14, 16, 32-37 and 39 also be withdrawn.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, applicant submits that this application, including claims 1-3, 7-14, 16-19, 23-26, 30-37 and 39, is allowable. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner allow this application.

Respectfully submitted,


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